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URGENT TASKS IN THE PRODUCTION OF
CHEMICAL INDUSTRY CONSUMERS' GOODS FOR 1947

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In the past year, the first year of the new five-year plan, the chemical industry's planned production in commodities has been exceeded. The output of plastic articles has been greatly increased. The production of chemicals and related products for household use has been brought up to prewar standards, as far as variety is concerned, and the same applies to enamelware iron articles and other products. Industrial capacity for both new and old commodities has been increased.

In 1946, production of commodities amounted to 107 percent of the plan, which corresponds to 188 percent of the 1945 production and 197 percent of the 1940 output.

By basic commodity groups, the increases over 1945 amount to 85 percent for plastic articles, 37 percent for notions, 66 percent for household goods, 146 percent for stationary and office supplies, and 25 percent for polyvinyl chloride footwear. One hundred thousand polyvinyl chloride cloaks and coats have been produced. Production of celluloid toys has tripled and that of chemicals and related products for household use doubled.

Production of detergents and soda ash has been considerably increased. Thirteen million packages of various cotton and wool dyes for home use have been supplied. Output of oil paint, varnishes, and lacquers for the population has been quadrupled. Production of fertilizer mixtures for individual truck gardeners has been raised over the prewar figure. Output of enamelware has quadrupled over 1945.

Production of 100 new types of plastic articles for everyday use has been adopted. Production of polyvinyl chloride clothing and of the following chemicals and related products -- insecticides and rodent poisons, deodorants and

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disinfectants for dwellings, dry alcohol "hexa," hyposulfite and sulfite for photographic purposes -- has been newly organized. Thirty shades of textile dyes for home use and various other products are being supplied.

The Glavkhimbyt (Main Administration for Distribution of Chemical Products) has opened 21 commodity outlet stores.

In 1947, the Ministry will increase the output of products for mass consumption by 25 percent, that of plastic articles by 16 percent, celluloid toys by 54 percent, enamelware articles by 15 percent, and chemicals and related products by 55 percent. Production of detergents, blueing, textile dyestuffs, paints, varnishes, lacquers, and fertilizer mixtures for vegetable gardens will be raised considerably. The same applies to chemical products manufactured either from basic raw materials or waste and by-products.

In this connection, particular attention is being paid to the utilization of wastes and by-products as sources of additional raw material. Thus, enterprises of the Main Administration under S. Ya. Faynshteyn have a considerable quantity of sludge from potassium prussiate production which can be used in the production of a dye [probably the pigment Prussian blue]. Screened off residues and wastes of polyvinyl chloride resin will be used in the production of plastics and lacquers. Still residues (acid pits) will be used for the impregnation of cardboard and packing paper and also for the production of roofing materials.

Enterprises of the Glavkhimprom (Main Administration of the Chemical Industry) allowed a large quantity of mother liquors from sodium sulfite production to go to waste. These liquors could have been utilized for the production of technical and "photo" sulfite. Aniline sludge [waste products of dyestuff plants] could be used for the production of pigments. In nitrogen plants of the Main Administration a solution of hyposulfite results from the process of sulfur purification. This by-product can be used as a photographic reagent. At the Aktyubinsk combine utilization of wastes from boric acid production has permitted an increase in the output of detergents, while sludges of the boron derivatives shop can be converted into insecticides.

The plants which have been most successful in 1946 as far as utilization of wastes is concerned include "Pobeda Rabochikh" (director, Soliyenko), "Karbolit" (director, Khenkin), the Konstantinovskiy plant (director, Kushnir), and the plant which is directed by Comrade Khanzin. Chemical enterprises produced 15 million rubles' worth of goods for mass consumption from industrial wastes in 1946. A special fund based on the profits from these goods will be distributed as follows: 50 percent for prizes to workers and ITR (members of the engineering and technical staff), 25 percent for cultural and educational measures, and 25 percent for further development of the production of goods for mass consumption from wastes.

The job of improving the quality of goods for mass consumption has been set for the current year. There is considerable room for improvement as far as labeling and packaging are concerned. At present, defective packaging often decreases the quality of the goods and is not up to commercial standards. The artistic quality of plastic articles and of certain other goods must be improved. The standards of production control and quality must be raised. In conformity with a decision of the Ministry of Chemical Industry, a special Council for Products of Mass Consumption has been created which will attend to such matters by passing on the quality of samples and taking other measures.

The available selection of products for mass consumption, particularly that of chemicals, will have to be increased. Goods that are required by the population rather than those which are convenient to produce will have to be the prime consideration. Some products are too expensive and there is consequently no demand

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for them. Until recently, this applied to articles made of organic glasses, but the Main Administration under Comrade Faynshteyn has since lowered the prices of this class of products by 20 percent. By paying proper attention to all relevant points, the technical management can make the production of products of mass consumption from industrial wastes quite profitable.

Present facilities for shaping, packaging, and labeling are entirely inadequate. The shops for that purpose which have been organized at the office of the Glavkhimbyt in Gor'kiy, Riga, Leningrad, etc. are merely home industry shops of an inferior type. It is the duty of Glavkhimbyt (Comrade Molotov) to organize productive and adequately equipped shops for the packaging of mass-consumption chemicals.

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